AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
AMNISTÍA INTERNACIONAL
AMNISTIE INTERNATIONALE
МЕЖДУНАРОДНАЯ АМНИСТИЯ
منظمة العفو الدولية
國際特赦組織

URGENT ACTION

TC 2053

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: ASA 21/17/95
Distr: UA/SC

UA 58/95 | Fear of torture / Arbitrary detention | **7 March 1995**

INDONESIA/EAST TIMOR

Up to 30 pro-independence supporters detained in Dili and Liquiza, East Timor

On 4 March 1995, up to 30 East Timorese, including several civil servants, were arrested by the Indonesian army in Dili, the capital of East Timor, and in Liquiza, west of Dili. Amnesty International fears for their safety in view of recent reports of torture of detainees held in military and police custody. The organization is also concerned that some may be being held solely for their peaceful opposition to Indonesian rule in East Timor.

East Timor's military chief, Colonel Kiki Syahnakri was quoted on 6 March as saying the group were being held in military custody in Dili. Amnesty International does not know the names of those detained or their exact whereabouts.

Colonel Kiki Syahnakri has said that the group were arrested because they were believed to be "supporters and followers of the Fretilin", the Revolutionary Front for an Independent East Timor. However Indonesia's own National Commission on Human Rights was quoted last week as saying that there had been no indications of armed resistance in one of the locations of the arrests, Liquiza, for the last 10 years.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The arrests are part of a crackdown by the military authorities in East Timor since widespread unrest resurfaced in November 1994. Since then, dozens of individuals have been subjected to short-term detention, and large numbers of people are facing trial, some for their involvement in an entirely peaceful demonstration. There are continuing reports of torture, extrajudicial executions and "disappearances". In addition, pro-independence activists have been subjected to attacks by so-called *Ninja* gangs, who appear to have been acting in connivance with the security forces. While attacks by Ninja gangs appear to have subsided in Dili, residents in more remote towns claim that attacks by the gangs are continuing.

Last week, the Indonesian National Commission on Human Rights announced that six East Timorese killed by the army in Liquiza in January 1995 were civilians, not armed members of the resistance. An Honorary Military Council, appointed by the Indonesian Government, is still conducting an inquiry into the incident.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters either in Bahasa Indonesia or in your own language:
- urging the authorities to provide details of those detained on 4 March 1995 in Dili and Liquiza, including their exact whereabouts and any charges to be brought against them, and urging that they be given immediate and regular access to relatives and lawyers;
- asking that all possible measures be taken to ensure the safety of the detainees;
- calling on the authorities to release any prisoners being held solely for the peaceful expression of their beliefs;
- calling on the Indonesian government to allow independent human rights monitors access to East Timor.

Amnesty International, International Secretariat, 1 Easton Street, London WC1X 8DJ, United Kingdom

Tel: (44)(71) 413 5500 Fax: 956 1157 Telegrams: Amnesty London WC1 Telex: 28502 E-mail: (GeoNet) mcr1:amnesty-is, (GreenNet) amnestyis@gn.apc.org

APPEALS TO:

MILITARY COMMANDER REGION IX/UDAYANA
(covers East Timor, amongst other areas)
Maj. Gen. R. Adang Ruchiatna
Pangdam IX/Udayana
Markas Besar KODAM IX/Udayana
Denpasar
Bali, Indonesia
Telegrams: **Pangdam IX/Udayana, Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia**
Salutation: **Dear Major-General**

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
Ali Alatas S.H.
Menteri Luar Negeri
Jl. Medan Taman Pejambon No.6
Jakarta, Indonesia
Faxes: +62 21 360 517
Telegrams: **Menteri Luar Negeri, Jakarta**
Telexes: **44205; 44469 deplu jkt**
Salutation: **Dear Minister Alatas**

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Lt. Gen. (ret.) Ali Said
Ketua, Komisi Nasional Hak Azasi Manusia (KOMNAS HAM)
Departemen Kehakiman RI
Directorat Jenderal Pemasyarakatan
Jl. Veteran No. 11
Jakarta Pusat, Indonesia
Faxes: +62 21 525 3095 (c/o Ministry of Justice)

and to diplomatic representatives of Indonesia accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 26 April 1995.